CARR-42 London Bridge Road, Gamber

Summary:

In January 1845, following the death of her husband, Ann Gorsuch and her children divided the property of John Gorsuch. The land was divided into at least seven lots, with most of the children purchasing a lot for ten dollars. Lot two, 83 ¼ acres, was acquired by Sarah, wife of Edmond Stocksdale, lot three, 53 acres, by Thomas J. Gorsuch, and lot six, 114 acres, by Nathan Gorsuch. Ann Gorsuch and her son, John W., purchased one lot of 102 ½ acres for \$1,000, and John W.'s wife, Eliza Ann, acquired another 102 ½ acre parcel for \$10. The differing acreage probably reflect the quality of the land and its potential, including sufficient fall for mill seats. The comparatively high price of the lot Ann and John W. purchased probably indicates that this was the home farm. It was likely well improved, so worth more, and Ann may have had the right to remain there. It is also possible that John W. was farming this lot, and the other children may have already been farming and improving the lots that they acquired. Thus this division may simply formalize a process instituted while John Gorsuch was still alive.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Magi	No.	
DOE	ves	no

1. Nam	e (indicate pr	eferred name) The	Gorsuch Property	
historic	The Gorsuch I	Property		
and/or common				
2. Loca	tion			
443 street & number	30 London Bridge	Road		_ not for publication
city, town	Gamber	Xvicinity of	congressional district	
state	Maryland	county	Carroll	
3. Class	sification		<u> </u>	
district building(s) structure	Ownership X public private both Public Acquisition in process being considered not applicable	Status occupied unoccupied work in progress Accessible yes: restricted yes: unrestricted no	Present Use agriculture commercial educational entertainment government industrial military	museum park X private residence religious scientific transportation other:
4. Own	er of Prope	rty (give names a	nd mailing addresses	of <u>all</u> owners)
name Sta	te of Maryland,	Department of M	Natural Resources	
street & number	Tawes State (Office Building	telephone no	.: (410) 260-818
city, town Ar	nnapolis	state	and zip code Mary	land 21401
5. Loca	tion of Leg	al Descripti	on	
courthouse, regist	try of deeds, etc. Cour	thouse Annex		liber 757
street & number	55 N	. Court Street		folio 167
city, town	West	minster	state Ma	aryland
6. Repr	esentation	in Existing	Historical Surve	ys
itle None				
date			federal state	county local
ository for surv	vey records			
city, town			state	

7. Desc	ription		CRRR-42	Survey No. 0042
Condition excellent good fair	_X_ deteriorated ruins unexposed	Check one unaltered X altered	Check oneX_ original site moved date of me	ove

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

SEE ATTACHED

1400 1500	D-1599 D-1699 D-1799 D-1899	Areas of Significance—C archeology-prehistoric agriculture X architecture art commerce communications	heck and justify below community planning conservation economics education engineering exploration/settlemen industry invention	law literature military music t philosophy politics/government	religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater x transportation other (specify)
Specific	dates		Builder/Architect		
check:	ar Appli	cable Criteria:A nd/or cable Exception:A of Significance:	BCD	<u> </u>	
Prepare support	both	a summary paragraph c			f history and

SEE ATTACHED

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. 0042

CKRR-42

SEE ATTACHED

10. Geographica	ai Data		
Acreage of nominated property 11	.5868 A.		Quadrangle scale 1:24000
UTM References do NOT comple	te UTM refer	ences	
Zone Easting Northin	ng	B Zone I	Easting Northing
C		D	
	1	H [
Verbal boundary description and	•		
List all states and counties for p		apping state or cou	unty boundaries code
List all states and counties for p	roperties overl		
List all states and counties for p	roperties overl code code	county	code
List all states and counties for p state state 11. Form Prepar	code code code	county	code
List all states and counties for p state state	code code code t, Historic	county county Planner	code
List all states and counties for postate state 11. Form Preparemane/title Kenneth M. Short	code code code code t, Historic	county county Planner Develop. date	code

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to:

Maryland Historical Trust Shaw House 21 State Circle Annapolis, Maryland 21401 (301) 269-2438 MAPYLADID HISTORICAL TRUST DEPOT/DHCD 100 CO COCCUSTY TOOK OROWNEL LIE NO 21632-2023 EL4 COM

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

Description Section 7 Page 1

The Gorsuch Property is on London Bridge Road just south of Morgan Run. It is located on the west side of the road where the road turns to the west and the house faces south toward the road. It was recently burned and is scheduled for demolition. There is a banked 2-story log structure with v-notch corners, it is three bays x one bay and has gable roof of asphalt shingles with an east/west ridge. There is a porch added to the front and a wing on the rear that is a frame.

The south elevation foundation has a doorway in the west bay, the first story has center doorway with a window to each side, all of the doors and windows have been replaced. The second story has two new 1/1 sash with no opening in the center bay, there is a wood box cornice. The east elevation has no openings in the first or second story, the gable end has an interior brick chimney. The opening in the gable end was probably cut by the fireman fighting the fire. The west elevation has a new wide opening on the first story and a new window opening on the second story and gable end. On the north elevation the first story appears to have originally had a center door and window to each side. The two windows were converted to doors and the door was blocked off and converted to a shelf. The second story has a new 1/1 sash in both end bays. The wing has been substantially destroyed by the fire.

The cellar has a dirt floor and a stone chimney support on the east elevation, there is a window opening in the center of the south elevation. The first story has entirely new flooring and framing of 2x4's with plywood. On the first story there is a fireplace on the east elevation that is covered with z- brick. The walls have paneling with no other finishes beneath it. There is a rebuilt winder stair that is made of plywood. There is no original trim and most everything here has been heavily burned. The second story has circular sawn lath that appears to be fastened with wire nails and is covered with early twentieth century plaster. The room arrangement has been greatly altered. The winder stair in the southeast corner appears to be original but has been burned through. The attic is finished where it is visible but is not accessible as the stairs have been damaged.

About 100' southeast of the house between the road and the stream is a spring house of rubble stone. The stone is set with the ends on the interior and exterior making each stone stick out strangely from the wall, these is an unusual construction technique. It has a shed roof that slopes down to the east, it is constructed with wire nails and is very deteriorated. There is a four panel door on the west elevation and a window opening on the north elevation. The interior of the building is plastered.

Significance

Section 8 Page 1

In January 1845, following the death of her husband, Ann Gorsuch and her children divided the property of John Gorsuch. The land was divided into at least seven lots, with most of the children purchasing a lot for ten dollars. Lot two, 83 ¼ acres, was acquired by Sarah, wife of Edmond Stocksdale, lot three, 53 acres, by Thomas J. Gorsuch, and lot six, 114 acres, by Nathan Gorsuch. Ann Gorsuch and her son, John W., purchased one lot of 102 ½ acres for \$1,000, and John W.'s wife, Eliza Ann, acquired another 102 ½ acre parcel for \$10. The differing acreage probably reflect the quality of the land and its potential, including sufficient fall for mill seats. The comparatively high price of the lot Ann and John W. purchased probably indicates that this was the home farm. It was likely well improved, so worth more, and Ann may have had the right to remain there. It is also possible that John W. was farming this lot, and the other children may have already been farming and improving the lots that they acquired. Thus this division may simply formalize a process instituted while John Gorsuch was still alive.

Lot 7, also 102 ½ acres, was purchased for \$10 by Lovelace Gorsuch. Six years later he sold the entire tract to William H. Shipley for \$900. The low price just under \$9 and acre, suggests that little had been done to the land. In 1852, by act of the Maryland Legislature, William Shipley changed his name to William H. Gorsuch. The following year he sold lot 7 to John W. Gorsuch for \$600 and seven years later John W. sold it to Rachel Ann B. Gorsuch, the wife of Lovelace, for the same price. they in turn sold to John W. Hartzell of Baltimore City in 1878. While the 1862 map indicates the property, the 1877 map does not. Hartzell did not own the property long, selling 21 acres to Eliza A. Gorsuch, the widow of Nathan Gorsuch, in 1881 for only \$5. She in turn sold it to her daughter, Ella L. Murphy, for \$300 in 1910, and the Murphys lost the property at a Sheriff's sale in 1916. The property continued to bounce around among owners, and again was not shown on the 1917 map.

This convoluted history suggests that the Gorsuch property was, for much of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, a rental property. The log house probably dates to the time when Lovelace Gorsuch acquired the land, c. 1845, though it could date twenty years earlier or later. Unfortunately, renovation of the building some years ago left little historic fabric inside the log shell. A recent fire actually revealed more of the fabric than it damaged, but there is nothing much to date the building accurately. Now owned by the Department of Natural Resources and used as a rental property, it is expected that the house will be torn down shortly.

Geographic Organization: Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Periods: Agricultural-Industrial Transition A.D. 1815-1870

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

Survey No.CARR-42

Significance

Section 8 Page 2

Historic Period Themes: Agriculture, Architecture

Resource Type: Small Family Farm, Rural Vernacular

9429

TAPHS MAY BE ADDED ON SHEET OF

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHOTOMAPHS MAY BE ADDED ON SHEET OF SAME SIZE

1. STATE Md.
COUNTY Carrol

VICINITY Gamber

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
INVENTORY

TOWN STREET NO.

2. NAME Bellinger Fa

DATE OR PERIOD

ORIGINAL OWNER
ORIGINAL USE
PRESENT OWNER

NO. OF STORIES Z

STYLE
ARCHITECT
BUILDER

PRESENT OWNER

PRESENT USE ALLECTION

WALL CONSTRUCTION

109

3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE

4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION

OPEN TO PUBLIC

Certate 19th century farmhouse of No particular next at this time.

5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endongered

Interior

Exterior V, good

(7)

6. LOCATION MAP (Plon Optional)

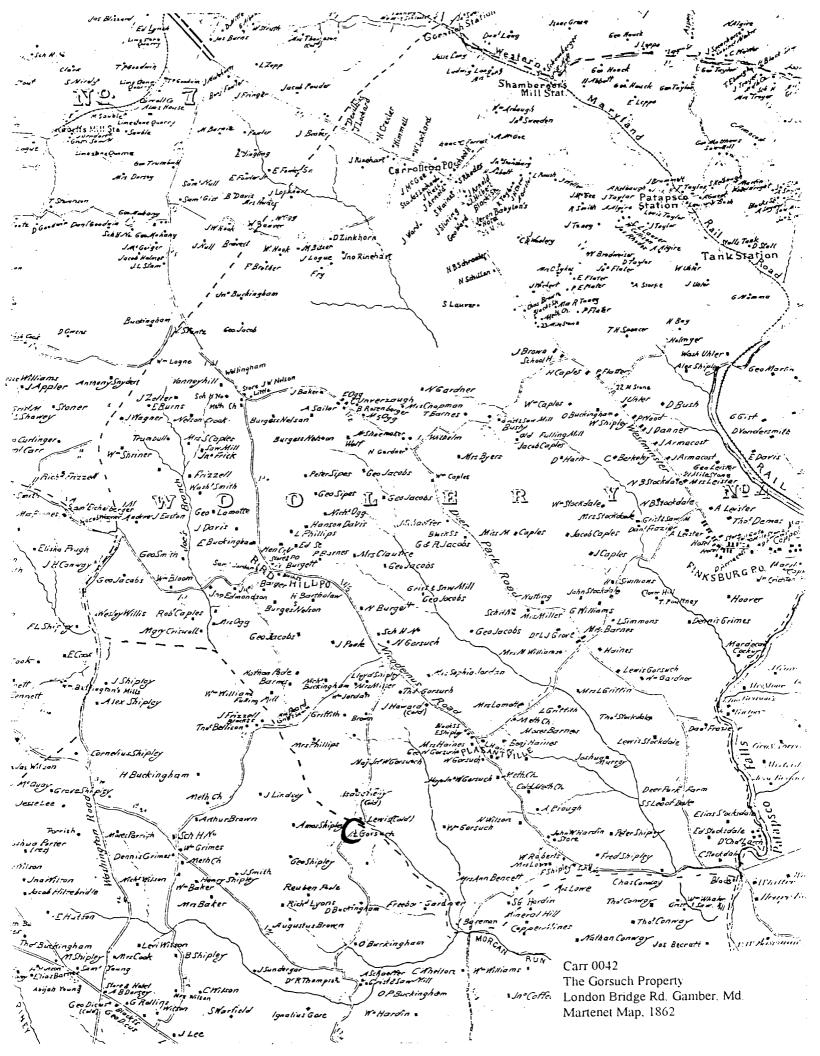
7. PHOTOGRAPH

3. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages)
INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.

9- NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER

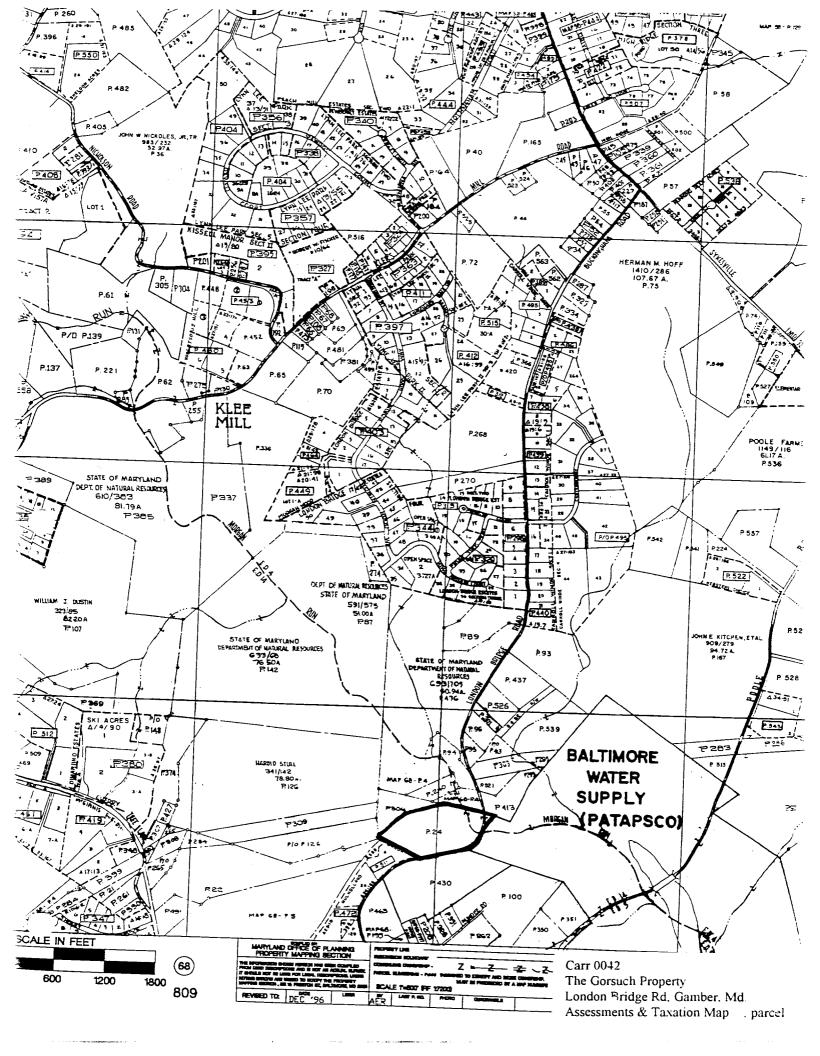
MHT 12/70

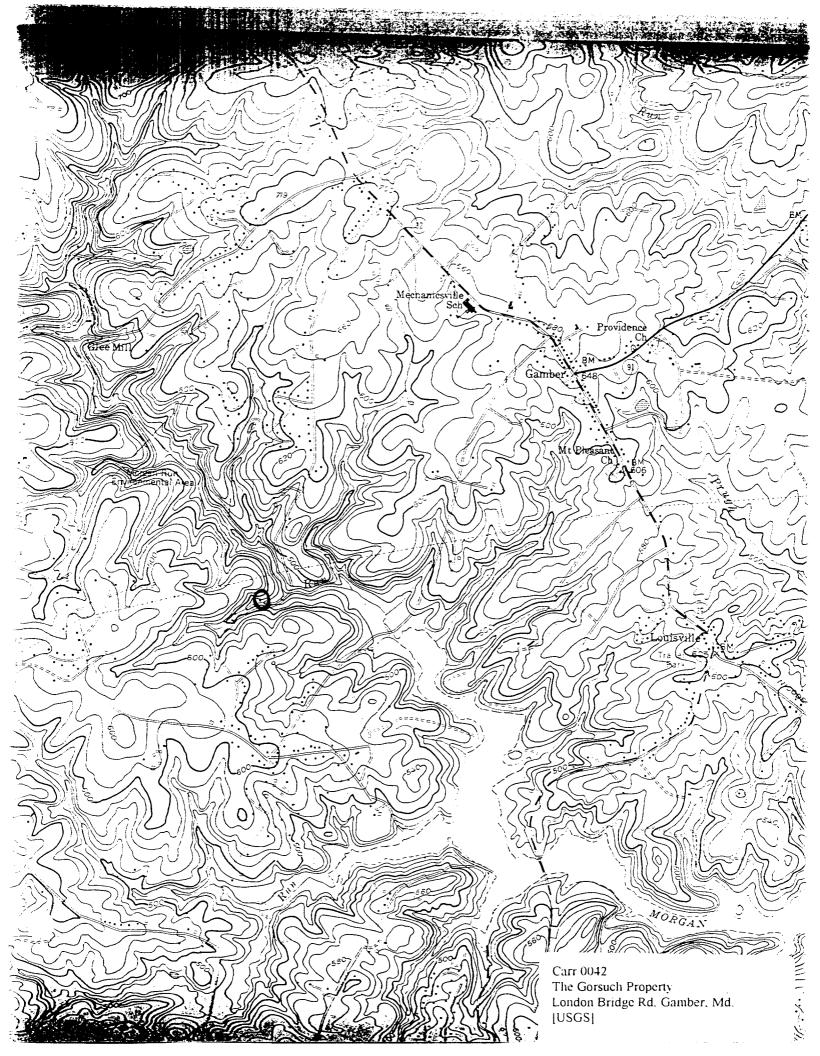
DATE OF RECORD





Carr 0042
The Gorsuch Property
London Bridge Rd, Gamber, Md.
Rand McNally Atlas, 1917







CHER-42 THE GURSUCH PROPERTY LONDON BRIDGE ROAD CARROLL COUNTY, MARYLAND PHOTO: KENNETH M. SHORT MP54Vo. 6 X218 21** N N N-8-642 DATE JUNE 1998 NEG. LOC: MARYLAND HISTORICHZ TRUST SPRINGHOUSE-NORTH & WEST ELEVATIONS 10F2



CARR-42 THE GORSUCH PROPERTY LONDON BRIDGE ROAD CARROLL COUNTY, MARYLAND PHOTO. KENNETH M. SHORT MP5000. 5 X218 21** N N N-8-622 DATE JUNE 1998 NEG. LOC: MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST HOUSE - SOUTH & EAST ELEVATIONS



CARR 42 Bellinger PROPERTY CARROLL COUNTY, MD C. MAZUREK 9/2/98 MD DEPT, OF NATURAL RESOURCES FIRE DAMAGE, NORTH FACADE 0F4



CARR 42 BOLLINGER PROPERTY CARROLL COUNTY, MD C. MAZUREK 9/2/98 MD DEPT OF NATURAL RESOURCES INTERIOR, FACING NORTH, IST FLOOR 2 OF 4



CARR 42 BellinGER PROPERTY CARROLL COUNTY, MD C. MAZUREK 9/2/98 MD DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES DETAIL OF LOS CONSTRUCTION, EXTERIOR 3 OF4



CARR 42 Bellinger PROPERTY CARROLL COUNTY, MD C. MAZUREK 9/2/98 MD DEPT, OF NATURAL RESOURCES SOUTHWEST FACAGE 4 OF 4